IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~A device~~ An optimization system for automated

optimization of a service life of technical facilities and/or risk determination of technical

facilities, comprising:

an optimization device that includes an analysis module configured to analyze facility

data to optimize the service life of a technical facility;

a capture module ~~for capturing~~ configured to capture the facility data of the technical

facility, the capture module including at least one measuring device having at least one

sensor, connected to the optimization device via a network, with corresponding interfaces for

determining one or more facility-specific quality factors, the at least one measuring device

being allocated to a particular technical facility; ~~and~~

~~an analysis module for analyzing the facility data and/or optimizing the service life of~~

~~the facility, wherein the capture module comprises at least one measuring device and/or~~

~~sensor, connected to the optimization device decentralized via a network, with corresponding~~

~~interfaces for determining one or more facility-specific quality factors, wherein the measuring~~

~~device and/or sensor is allocated to a particular technical facility;~~

a first database ~~with~~ configured to store predefined risk elements,~~wherein~~ identifying

in a quantified manner a risk instance and/or a risk potential of the technical facility ~~can be~~

~~detected in a quantified manner by a risk element;~~

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a second database ~~with~~ configured to store predefined protection elements, ~~wherein~~

identifying in a quantified manner a protection device and/or a protection possibility of

technical facilities ~~can be detected in a quantified manner by a protection element~~;

a third database configured to store, for each technical facility, at least one risk

element and/or at least one protection element ~~stored~~ allocated to the technical facility,

~~wherein~~ a facility-specific weighting factor ~~can be~~ determined for each risk element and

protection element, and a facility-specific quality factor, determined by the capture module

via the at least one measuring device, for each risk element and protection element, the ~~which~~

facility-specific weighting factor ~~comprises~~ identifying the relative weighting ratio of the risk

elements and/or protection elements with respect to one another, ~~; wherein by the at least one~~

~~measuring device and/or sensor, a facility-specific quality factor can be determined for each~~

~~risk element and protection element, wherein~~ the facility-specific quality factor ~~comprises~~

identifying an instantaneous facility-specific instance of a ~~technical~~ risk element or protection

element based on ~~the basis of~~ the measured facility data; and

an evaluation module ~~for determining~~ configured to determine risk analysis values

and/or facility optimization values based on ~~the basis of~~ the sum of the products of the risk

elements with associated facility-specific weighting factors and facility-specific quality

factors ~~combined with~~ as well as the sum of the products of the protection elements with

associated facility-specific weighting factors and facility-specific quality factors,

wherein the evaluation module is implemented as hardware or as a hardware/software

combination.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The ~~device~~ system as claimed in claim 23, further

comprising:

a memory module ~~comprising~~ configured to store a ~~multiplicity~~ plurality of facility

risk types, ~~wherein the facility risk types in each case comprise~~ having at least one risk

element and/or one protection factor ~~and each technical facility can be allocated to one~~

~~facility risk type; and~~

a normalization module ~~for automatically generating~~ configured to automatically

generate a facility-risk-type-specific reference value,

wherein

each technical facility is allocated to one facility risk type, and

the facility data of different technical facilities are normalized based on ~~the~~

~~basis of~~ the reference value of the associated facility risk type by the normalization

module.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The ~~device~~ system as claimed in claim 23, further

comprising:

an extrapolation module ~~for automatically generating~~ configured to automatically

generate the risk analysis values and/or optimization data for possible combinations and

weightings of the protection elements and/or risk elements.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The ~~device~~ system as claimed in claim 23, wherein a

group risk factor ~~can be~~ is allocated to each facility risk type, ~~wherein~~ the group risk factor

~~can be~~ being calculated by the evaluation module and ~~comprises the~~ identifying an overall

risk of all technical facilities of a facility risk type.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The ~~device~~ system as claimed in claim 23, wherein

the capture module is further configured to be accessible ~~decentralized~~ via a decentralized

network.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A method for automated risk management and/or

automated optimization of a service life of technical facilities, comprising: ~~wherein~~

capturing, via a capture module of an optimization device, facility data of a technical

facility; ~~are captured by a capture module of an optimization device and facility risks are~~

~~optimized by an evaluation module of the optimization device on the basis of the facility data,~~

~~the method comprising:~~

generating and storing, in a first database, a list with risk elements ~~in a first database~~

~~of the optimization device, wherein~~ identifying a risk instance and/or a risk potential of

technical facilities ~~can be detected~~ in a quantified manner ~~by a risk element~~;

generating and storing, in a second database, a list with protection elements ~~in a~~

~~second database of the optimization device, wherein~~ identifying a protection device and/or a

protection possibility of technical facilities ~~can be detected~~ in a quantified manner ~~by a~~

~~protection element~~;

storing, in a third database and for each technical facility, at least one risk element

and/or protection element allocated to the technical facility, ~~wherein~~ a facility-specific

weighting factor [[is]] being determined for each ~~associated~~ risk element and protection

element, ~~which~~ and a facility-specific quality factor determined by the capture module via a

measuring and/or capturing device, the facility-specific weighting factor ~~comprises~~

identifying the relative weighting ratio of the risk elements and/or protection elements with

respect to one another, ~~; determining a facility-specific quality factor by the capture module~~

~~for each risk element and protection element via corresponding interfaces by a respective~~

~~measuring and/or capture device, wherein~~ the facility-specific quality factor ~~comprises the~~

identifying an facility-specific instance of a risk element or protection element based on the

~~basis of the~~ measured facility data; and

determining, [[by]] via the evaluation module, based on ~~the basis of~~ the sum of the

products of the risk elements with associated facility-specific weighting factors and facility-

specific quality factors ~~combined with~~ as well as the sum of the products of the protection

elements with associated facility-specific weighting factors and facility-specific quality

factors, at least one risk analysis value for automated risk management, ~~and/or~~ one facility

optimization value for automated optimization of at least one protection device [[or]] and/or

minimization of a risk potential of the technical facility.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, further

comprising:

generating and storing, in a memory module, at least two facility risk types ~~in a~~

~~memory module of the optimization device, wherein~~ the facility risk types ~~comprise in each~~

~~case~~ including at least one risk element and/or one protection element, ~~and~~ each technical

facility ~~can be~~ being allocated to one facility risk type; and

generating, at a normalization module, a reference value for each facility risk type; ;

~~wherein~~

normalizing, via the normalization module, the facility data of different technical

facilities ~~are normalized by a normalization module~~ based on ~~the basis of~~ the reference value

of the associated facility risk type.

Claim 30 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the facility risk

types and/or the associated reference values are generated dynamically.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the

facility risk types are generated such that a technical facility ~~can always be allocated~~ is

unambiguously allocated in each case to one facility risk type.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, further

comprising:

generating and storing a two-dimensional ~~matrix~~ table in accordance with a

combination, ~~in which~~ a first dimension ~~is~~ of the two-dimensional table identifying ~~allocated~~

~~to the~~ a protection level of a technical facility and a second dimension ~~is~~ of the two-

dimensional table identifying ~~allocated to the~~ a risk level of a technical facility;

~~transferring~~ populating the two-dimensional table, for automated risk management

and/or for automated optimization of the service life of the technical facility, with the sum of

the products of the protection elements with associated facility-specific weighting factors and

facility-specific quality factors of the technical facility in relation to the first dimension, and

~~transferring~~ populating the two-dimensional table with the sum of the products of the risk

elements with associated weighting factors and quality factors of the technical facility in

relation to the second dimension; and

determining that the at least one risk analysis value and/or facility optimization value

on the basis of location of an entry in the two-dimensional ~~matrix~~ table.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the

two-dimensional ~~matrix~~ table is divided into predefinable sectors, ~~wherein a~~ each sector

~~corresponds~~ corresponding to at least one definable risk analysis value and/or facility

optimization value.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the

two-dimensional ~~matrix~~ table is normalized by a facility-risk-specific normalization factor for

determining the risk analysis values and/or facility optimization values for a technical

facility.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the

facility-risk-specific normalization factor is generated dynamically based on ~~the basis of~~

available facility data of technical facilities of the corresponding facility risk type.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein a scale

of the first and/or second dimension of the ~~matrix~~ table ~~can be~~ is linearly selected.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein a scale of the first and/or second dimension of the ~~matrix~~ table ~~can be~~ is nonlinearly selected.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the risk analysis values and/or facility optimization values for possible combinations and weightings of the protection elements and/or risk elements are generated automatically and stored so as to be accessible to a user [[by]] via an extrapolation module.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the evaluation module allocates a group risk factor ~~is allocated~~ to each facility risk type ~~by the evaluation module, wherein~~ the group risk factor ~~comprises the~~ identifying an overall risk of all technical facilities of a facility risk type.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the group risk factor is generated dynamically by the evaluation module.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the capture module is configured accessible ~~decentralized~~ via a decentralized network.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the evaluation module forms groups of protection elements ~~are formed~~ as knock-out protection elements with one or more protection elements ~~by the evaluation module, wherein~~ a knock-

out protection element ~~determines~~ <u>determining</u> ~~and/or dominates~~ behavior of [[the]] <u>an</u> entire

group [[if]] <u>when</u> a given limit value of [[the]] <u>a</u> knock-out protection element is reached.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): A computer-aided portfolio management system, comprising:

a first database with predefined risk elements, wherein a risk instance and/or a risk

potential of the technical facility can be detected in a quantified manner by a risk element;

a second database with predefined protection elements, wherein a protection device

and/or a protection possibility of technical facilities can be detected in a quantified manner by

a protection element;

wherein at least one risk element and/or at least one protection element is stored

allocated to the technical facility, wherein a facility-specific weighting factor can be

determined for each risk element and protection element, which weighting factor comprises

the relative weighting ratio of the risk element and/or protection element with respect to one

another;

at least one measuring and/or capture device with corresponding interfaces for

determining a facility-specific quality factor for each risk element and protection element,

wherein the quality factor comprises an instantaneous facility-specific instance of a technical

risk element or protection element on the basis of the measured facility data;

an evaluation module for determining risk analysis values on the basis of the sum of

the products of the risk elements with associated weighting factors and quality factors

combined with the sum of the products of the protection elements with associated weighting

factors and quality factors,

wherein the portfolio management system enables or blocks a purchase and/or sale of securities and/or bonds on the basis of the risk analysis values.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The computer-aided system as claimed in claim 43, further comprising:

a memory module that comprises a multiplicity of facility risk types, wherein the facility risk types in each case comprise at least one risk element and/or one protection factor and each technical facility can be allocated to one facility risk type; and

a normalization module for automatically generating a facility-risk-type-specific reference value, wherein the facility data of different technical facilities are normalized by the normalization module on the basis of the reference value of the associated facility risk type; and

wherein purchase and/or sale of securities can be determined by the portfolio management system such that loss risks are minimized with highest possible profit possibilities.